GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2333
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
NATIONAL LIBRARY POLICY
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to formulate a National Library Policy to boost the library movement in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether all Members of Parliament have been asked to spend Rs.10 to Rs.15 lakhs annually for setting up and improving the libraries in their constituencies;

(d) if so, whether all the M.Ps have agreed to provide funds for this purpose;

(e) if so, the details in this regard; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Number 2333 to be replied on 18th March, 2002

On January 5, 2002, a National Round Table was organised to discuss theprevailing state of affairs in the National and Public libraries and to consider ways and means of reforming, reorganising and modernising the libraries in the country and also to infuse new life in the library movement. A few other groups were constituted as a result of the deliberations in the said National Meet to look into various aspects of the problem. No help was sought from the private entrepreneurs. However, it was decided to request the Members of Parliament to set apart Rs.15-20 lakh for public librariesin their constituencies out of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development fund (MPLAD) of Rs.2 crore. The response from Members of Parliament is still awaited.